

# Curricula: Georgia Standards of Excellence + New York Rigor

We will unify the strengths of Georgia (GSE) and New York (NY Next Gen) into a single, balanced framework for your students in our summer program. By maintaining Georgia’s development pace and accessibility standards and integrating New York’s rigor, structure, and academic depth, we have created the table below to inform our parents exactly what your children will be learning this summer.

Grade	English Language Arts	Mathematics
<b>Kindergarten</b>	Phonics and letter-sound mastery, listening comprehension, story retelling, and early writing through drawings and simple sentences.	Counting to 100, number recognition, basic addition/subtraction using manipulatives, and shape identification.
<b>1st Grade</b>	Reading fluency, identifying main ideas, responding to text verbally and in writing, and sentence writing with grammar awareness.	addition/subtraction within 20, place value foundations, measurement and time, simple word problems.
<b>2nd Grade</b>	Independent reading, paragraph writing with structure, vocabulary development, and text-based responses with guidance.	Addition/subtraction within 100, place value to hundreds, early multiplication concepts, data, and graphs.
<b>3rd Grade</b>	Reading comprehension across genres, opinion, and informational writing with evidence, organized paragraphs.	Multiplication/division mastery, fraction foundations, multi-step word problems, and interpreting data.
<b>4th Grade</b>	Text analysis, essay writing with supporting details, grammar refinement, and short research tasks.	Multi-digit operations, fraction equivalence, decimals, geometry, and measurement conversions.
<b>5th Grade</b>	Evidence-based writing, summaries and analysis, research and presentation skills, and advanced vocabulary.	Fraction and decimal operations, volume, coordinate planes, and multi-step real-world problems.
<b>6th Grade</b>	<b>The SHSAT framework</b>	
<b>7th Grade</b>		
<b>8th Grade</b>		

To ensure steady progress, we recommend that parents enroll their children in the full 7-week academic program to ensure grade-level readiness when students return to school.

# What is and Why the SHSAT for Middle School Students?

The SHSAT (Specialized High Schools Admissions Test) measures a New York City student's aptitude in English Language Arts (reading comprehension, revising/editing) and Math (arithmetic, algebra, geometry) to predict success in rigorous, specialized high schools. Students in New York begin preparing for the exam in 6th grade and take the once-in-a-lifetime test in 8th grade to gain admission to world-renowned high schools that guarantee their academic careers.

**1. The SHSAT raises the academic ceiling without replacing the Georgia Standards.**

- Georgia standards emphasize conceptual understanding and gradual rigor
- SHSAT-style work emphasizes speed, precision, and high-level reasoning
- Together, they create a balanced model: mastery + challenge

**2. SHSAT questions are designed to test how students think, not just what they know.**

ELA (Grade 6 - 8)	Math (Grades 6 - 8)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Close reading of complex passages</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Inference and author's intent</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Precision in language and answer choices</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Evidence-based reasoning</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Multi-step reasoning</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Algebraic thinking earlier</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Pattern recognition and logical deduction</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Time-bound problem solving</li></ul>

**These skills directly support:**

- Georgia milestones success
- Honor students and advanced coursework
- High school readiness

**3. Builds academic stamina, focus, and confidence with challenging materials.**

**4. Prepares students for competitive academic environments.**

- Even though the SHSAT is not administered in GA, the skills transfer to Magnet programs, honors and gifted programs, advanced math pathways, selective high school or private school admissions, and future SAT/ACT preparation.

**5. Guarantees academic readiness.**

- For over a decade, Master Seo has guided students in New York to guaranteed academic success through SHSAT preparation. The rigorous early exposure prepares students not only to gain admission to their chosen specialized high school but also sets the foundation for their future acceptance into prestigious colleges.

# Rising Kindergarten

**Focus:** Early literacy, phonics, number sense, and learning routines.

Week	ELA (What We Teach)	Math (What We Teach)
1	Letter recognition, letter sounds, listening skills, classroom routines, and oral language development	Counting to 20, number recognition, and one-to-one correspondence
2	Phonics (CVC words), rhyming, and story retelling using pictures	Counting to 50, comparing numbers (more/less)
3	Sight words, forming simple sentences through drawing and writing	Addition within 5 using hands-on tools
4	Writing about self and family, labeling pictures	Shapes, patterns, positional words
5	Answering who/what/where questions from stories	Subtraction within 5
6	Shared writing, expressing ideas orally and in writing	Number bonds and fluency games
7	Reading and writing showcase	Math review and mastery activities

## Rationale:

In Kindergarten, our primary goal is to build strong foundations, not to rush through content. Given the seven-week timeframe, we carefully selected topics that serve as essential building blocks for future learning—such as phonics, early writing, counting, and number sense. These skills support all future academic success.

Rather than covering every Kindergarten standard superficially, we focus on helping students understand and practice core concepts before moving on. This approach allows children to build confidence, develop learning routines, and retain skills more effectively in a short-term program.

# Rising 1st Grade

**Focus:** Reading fluency, sentence writing, and foundational math accuracy.

Week	ELA (What We Teach)	Math (What We Teach)
1	Phonics review, decoding, reading fluency	Place values to 20
2	Identifying main ideas and story details	Addition within 20
3	Writing complete sentences with punctuation	Subtraction within 20
4	Vocabulary development and descriptive writing	Measurements (length and time)
5	Answering questions using text evidence (guided)	Word problems
6	Expanding sentences into short paragraphs.	Mixed operations fluency
7	Reading and writing a presentation	Math review and assessment

## Rationale:

First grade is a critical year for transitioning from “learning to read” to “reading with understanding.” Our topic selection prioritizes reading fluency, sentence writing, and foundational math accuracy, as these are skills students use across all subjects.

Given the limited timeframe, we intentionally slow the pace, so students have time to practice, apply, and demonstrate understanding before introducing new material. This ensures that students are not overwhelmed and are better prepared to continue learning when the school year resumes.

# Rising 2nd Grade

**Focus:** Paragraph writing, comprehension, and multi-step math thinking.

Week	ELA (What We Teach)	Math (What We Teach)
1	Reading stamina and comprehension strategies	Place values to 100
2	Writing organized paragraphs with topic sentences	Addition and subtraction within 100
3	Answering questions using text evidence	Introduction to multiplication
4	Informational texts and nonfiction features	Measurements and money
5	Writing explanations and summaries	Multi-step word problems
6	Editing for grammar and clarity	Data and graphs
7	Writing project presentation	Review and mastery check

## Rationale:

In second grade, students begin moving toward more independent reading, paragraph writing, and multi-step math thinking. We selected topics that strengthen these transitions, including organized writing, comprehension strategies, and problem-solving.

Because it is not realistic to teach an entire year's worth of content in seven weeks, we emphasize clarity and understanding over volume. Students are guided through each topic with enough repetition and explanation to build meaningful comprehension before advancing.

# Rising 3rd Grade

**Focus:** Structured writing, multiplication mastery, evidence-based thinking

Week	ELA (What We Teach)	Math (What We Teach)
1	Identifying main ideas and details	Place value review
2	Opinion writing with reasons and examples	Multiplication strategies
3	Informational writing and basic research	Multiplication and division
4	Vocabulary using context clues	Fractions (parts of a whole)
5	Writing responses using text evidence	Multi-step word problems
6	Organizing and revising writing	Data and graphs
7	Oral and written presentation	Review and assessment

## Rationale:

Third grade marks a major academic shift, particularly with the introduction of multiplication, division, and structured, evidence-based writing. These skills were intentionally prioritized because they have the greatest impact on future academic success.

In a short program, moving too quickly can lead to confusion and gaps in learning. Our approach ensures students grasp the reasoning behind concepts—not just procedures—before progressing. This helps students retain information longer and apply it more confidently.

# Rising 4th Grade

**Focus:** Reading analysis, essay writing, fractions, and decimals.

Week	ELA (What We Teach)	Math (What We Teach)
1	Summarizing and making inferences	Multi-digit multiplication
2	Analyzing theme and text structure	Division strategies
3	Writing essays with evidence	Fraction equivalence
4	Research skills and note-taking	Decimals
5	Academic vocabulary and clarity	Measurements and geometry
6	Revising and editing writing	Multi-step problem solving
7	Research presentation	Review and mastery

## Rationale:

Fourth grade introduces deeper reading analysis, essay writing, and more advanced math concepts, including fractions and decimals. These topics were chosen because they represent the core skills students must carry into upper elementary and middle school.

Given the condensed schedule, instruction is designed to build conceptual understanding first, followed by guided practice. We do not move forward until students show a basic level of understanding, helping prevent frustration and knowledge gaps.

# Rising 5th Grade

**Focus:** Middle school readiness, research, and advanced math reasoning.

Week	ELA (What We Teach)	Math (What We Teach)
1	Reading complex texts and summarizing	Fraction review
2	Writing claims supported by evidence	Fraction operations
3	Informational essays with structure	Decimal operations
4	Research and synthesizing sources	Volume and geometry
5	Academic tone and vocabulary	Coordinate plane
6	Revising arguments for clarity	Real-world problem solving
7	Writing presentation	Mastery assessment

## Rationale:

Fifth grade serves as a bridge to middle school, so our focus is on readiness rather than acceleration. Topics such as evidence-based writing, research skills, and advanced math reasoning were selected to prepare students for increased academic expectations.

Because seven weeks is not enough time to fully replicate a school year, we focus on helping students understand key concepts well enough to recognize, apply, and build on them later. This measured pacing supports retention and gives students a stronger foundation as they move into the next grade level.